



# A Practical Guide to Promoting Child Learning

INVITE + ENGAGE + TEACH

Once a child is engaged in an interest-based activity, the child is ready for the chance to learn something new. New learning can be introduced in many ways in an activity, but most important is to make sure the caregiver is introducing a “just right” challenge. The caregiver should focus on teaching by using the child’s interests and strengths as well as providing help when needed so the child does not get frustrated. Here are some simple “teach” strategies caregivers can use to start adding new learning to the child’s typical routines.

## 1. Focus on the big picture:

Caregivers can use words, pictures, and demonstrations to help the child understand what is going to happen next, especially if an activity is new to him. This will help the child learn to communicate and understand his role in the activity.

## 2. Provide some time:

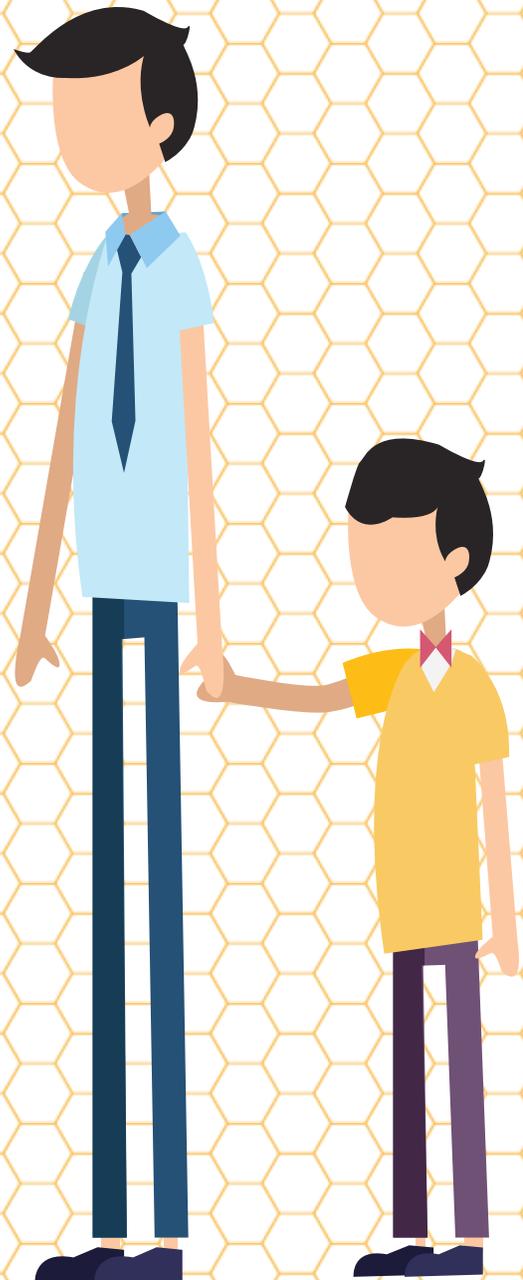
When the child is getting to a challenging part of the activity, the caregiver should wait a few extra seconds before jumping in to help. This will give the child time to try some solutions and learn more about how to solve similar problems in the future.

## 3. Give the child a job:

Consider giving the child control over a piece of the activity the caregiver would usually do or that the child usually needs help with. If the activity is familiar, the child will understand what needs to happen next and be ready to take the next step.

## 4. Offer more chances:

Caregivers can help children use learning in different activities during the day. This will keep the child from getting bored in a single activity and will help the child and the caregiver to take advantage of all of the learning opportunities that happen during a typical day.



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